

# Crissy Field Center



## 2016 STATISTICS

19,146

Total adults and  
children served

388,109

Total number of  
contact hours

20.3 hours

Average contact time  
per participant

387

Total number  
of programs

987

Youth placed in green  
jobs since 2001



## OUR MISSION

**Crissy Field Center's** programs and staff encourage new generations to become bold leaders for thriving parks, healthy communities, and a more environmentally just society. The Center's highly trained, diverse staff provide multicultural programming that instills environmental values, civic responsibility, park stewardship, leadership development, and a commitment to sustainability.

By taking a "ladder of learning" approach and offering multiple, stepped programs that promote long-term relationships, the Center nurtures youth both personally and professionally and introduces them to career opportunities.

Through strong partnerships with schools and community organizations in underserved areas, the Center is able to focus on engaging people who traditionally have had little, if any, access to national parks, due to a variety of barriers, including financial factors, language, and cultural relevancy.

The Center provides a majority of its programming for free or at very low cost, offers programs in multiple languages, and develops culturally relevant education opportunities that inspire young people to lead positive changes in the national parks, their communities, and their lives.



## OUR APPROACH



### Youth-Centered Leadership Development

Our leadership programs have been developed for young people —by young people.

Each program is infused with the principles of youth development: safety, supportive relationships, meaningful leadership opportunities, a positive sense of purpose, and skill-building.



### Multicultural & Environmental Learning

Our hands-on, environmental learning is rooted in the lives of youth and their personal experiences.

Our programs help youth build confidence and skills to engage in real social, political, and environmental causes.



### Thriving Urban Parks Setting

Our parks are powerful outdoor classrooms that are all about enjoyment and fun. Parks help us engage youth through unique activities like park improvement, volunteering, and preservation efforts.

Our urban park model is influencing related park efforts across the U.S. and around the world.

## STAFF: WHO WE ARE

**The strength of our staff** lies in their diversity and cultural competence. Staff members represent 10 different ethnicities, speak a total of five languages, and average more than six years of experience working at the Center. Our staff welcome a broad community to the parks and actively connect community members to resources and new experiences.

**The Crissy Field Center focuses its work on youth that have had little or no access to national parks. Our staff acknowledge these are often the same youth and communities that are directly impacted by environmental and social justice issues. We create a space for our youth that celebrates their identities, encourages them to speak their truth, provides them a compassionate place that welcomes challenges for growth and connects them to opportunities that promote their success. Our staff work to create a youth community that strives to understand and become equipped to lead us into a creative, equitable, and just world.**

*—Ernesto Pepito, Associate Director Youth Leadership*



## TRENDS | LEARNING | FUTURE PLANS



### HOMEcoming

The Crissy Field Center will be moving into a revitalized and enlarged youth campus and is projected to open between 2019 and 2020 as part of the forthcoming Presidio Tunnel Tops project.

Elements of the new campus will include several welcoming public spaces. In the “Field Station,” visitors can dive deeply into urban nature, facilitated by park staff and young leaders. A unique outdoor playscape will offer youth and families a venue to explore nature, perform science inquiry, create art, and engage in fun and playful physical challenges.

The original home to Crissy Field Center, Building 603, will be refreshed and renovated to house its growing youth, school, and community partner constituents, increasing its capacity to offer programs and services that support our mission.



# Camping at the Presidio



## 2016 STATISTICS

6,281

Participants served

41,512

Total participants served  
since 2007

890

Trained leaders since 2007

92

New CAP leaders  
trained in 2016

561

4th graders served as part  
of the Every Kid in a Park  
Centennial initiative

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

**Camping at the Presidio (CAP)** provides youth who traditionally have not visited national parks with meaningful overnight camping opportunities. Co-designed by community organizations and schools, CAP offers dynamic outdoor activities at the Presidio's Rob Hill Campground for youth who lack access to camping experiences—while providing a gateway to explore the Golden Gate National Parks and parklands far beyond our urban center.

Consideration is given to participants facing economic, cultural, or other barriers typically preventing them from visiting

national parks. CAP provides leader training, low-cost transportation, camping gear, and guided programs during their trip.

Community organizations or schools qualify by meeting certain criteria, such as offering free or low-cost services; or working with children and youth who are members of families with limited incomes, receive free or reduced lunch, live in affordable or subsidized housing, or have emotional, physical, or developmental needs.





## PARTICIPANT STORY | HIGHLIGHTS

**AccessSFUSD: The Arc** participated in an overnight trip at Rob Hill Campground for the first time this summer, and for many of the participants it was their first night away from home. Designed for students with disabilities ages 18–22, The Arc is a program that teaches functional life skills within a community setting. Campers spent two days in the Presidio of San Francisco, hiking to the Golden Gate Bridge, meditating, creating nature art, and dancing and singing around the campfire. The CAP team is excited about the new partnership and happy to hear that the camping experience is going to become an annual event for the program.



Camping allowed our students to experience the outdoors in a meaningful way that is not often available to most of them and it helped foster teamwork and a sense of community for our school. And it was really fun!

—Linden Cady, Transition Instructor for AccessSFUSD: The Arc

I like the fire, the food, hiking, writing in our camping journal, and going to the Golden Gate Bridge. Camping is fun!

—Tommy, AccessSFUSD: The Arc participant



## TRENDS | LEARNING | FUTURE PLANS

### URBAN BACKPACKING

CAP is looking forward to piloting a backpacking program in 2017. Partnering with local YMCA after-school programs, CAP staff will facilitate enrichment classes to teach youth how to navigate, pack their packs, build a tent, and cook their own meals! The program will include a three-day, two-night trip during which participants will hike from their school to the Presidio, camp, take a day trip over the Golden Gate Bridge to Hawk Hill, camp again, and hike back to their school.

They will set-up camp at Rob Hill, where they will stay both nights. Other potential backpacking trips include week-long summer camp sessions, in coordination with Crissy Field Center.

With the addition of a backpacking component, CAP seeks to provide more opportunities to increase access and equity to our national parks through transformative overnight experiences for Bay Area youth.



## KEY PARTNER



BAY AREA  
WILDERNESS  
TRAINING





## 2016 STATISTICS

17

Youth participants from 7 different cultural backgrounds speaking 5 languages at home

56

Participants from 5 different youth organizations involved with Backyard Bound: Centennial Edition in Yosemite National Park

10

Youth organization collaborations around the Bay Area

90%

College attendance rate for youth who completed the I-YEL program: 2001–2016

548

Average number of hours an I-YEL youth spends in leadership development per year

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

### Inspiring Young Emerging Leaders (I-YEL)

is a high school leadership program for youth attending San Francisco public schools. I-YEL embraces the five pillars of youth development practice: Physical and Emotional Safety; Relationship Building; Meaningful Participation; Community Involvement; and Skill Building. Applying youth development practice through event planning, project management, community involvement, and environmental trips, participants learn the skills necessary to be stronger leaders in their community.

For their YEL project this year, I-YEL took over 50 Bay Area youth to Yosemite National Park to raise awareness on the forgotten legacy of the Buffalo Soldiers. The I-YEL team concentrated their lesson plan on this group in order to educate youth about the discrimination these soldiers experienced. The mission was to reveal the importance of their legacy in molding the future and shaping our current society.







## PARTICIPANT STORY | HIGHLIGHTS

Being new to the program gave me a lot of opportunities to enrich my mind and voice like never before. During Backyard Bound I was able to lead a group of youth, at times on my own, and that really gave me a sense of leadership and value that I would not gain from anywhere else. Watching youth our age participate and interact with each other and find ownership in their parks made me feel really good about what I was doing.

—Gisele Arguello, 1st year I-YEL intern



## TRENDS | LEARNING | FUTURE PLANS



3FM was a free food and free movies event that we planned. Our goal was to teach youth about the Buffalo Soldiers and tell them about Backyard Bound. It was pivotal in the personal improvement of lesson planning among the interns, and Backyard Bound would not have seen as much success without it. On its own 3FM was a casual, fun experience.

— Cameron Jo, 1st year I-YEL intern

**The Inspiring Young Emerging Leaders** staff will begin a pilot program with Leadership High School, a San Francisco Unified School District approved charter school that prepares students for success in college and adult life through traditional academic and broad human skills. The pilot program will be the first off-site youth development program in I-YEL's history.

Next year's annual youth-led summit Backyard Bound will grow in its capacity to host Bay Area youth and explore youth leadership in the field of environmental conservation. The event will expand to a three-day, two-night model, allowing for more outdoor experiential activities, skill-building workshops, and engaging conversations with youth.





## 2016 STATISTICS

217

Participants

868

Contact hours

8

Classrooms from  
San Francisco  
public schools

4

San Francisco public schools:  
Chinese Education Center  
Mission Education Center  
Longfellow Elementary School  
Glen Park Elementary School

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

To start the 2015–16 school year, the Crissy Field Center and Golden Gate Raptor Observatory (GGRO) partnered to develop a special 4th grade program, Hawks on the Move. It provided two class visits each week during the migration season, serving nearly 200 students in English, Spanish, and Cantonese. Each open-air field trip on Hawk Hill was preceded by a classroom visit with National Park Service and Conservancy staff and interns.

The program explores the essential question: “Why do living things move?” The theme intentionally links to the California curriculum for 4th grade, including life sciences, migration, history and people in conservation, and math, while making connections to real jobs and real people. The program illustrates the connectivity between humans and other animals with which we share this planet, placing a special emphasis on raptor and human migration.

In addition, the educational model for the program encourages each student to offer their opinion, share their perspective, and bring their own voice to the conversation. And, importantly, teachers and students alike found the program educational, inspiring, and fun.

The Center strived to serve 4th grade classrooms that have not had equitable learning opportunities. The vast majority of students served are categorized by the school district as socioeconomically disadvantaged, are English Language Learners, and identify as non-white.

In order to improve program offerings and remain relevant to changing educational values, staff are overhauling curriculum to meet Next Generation Science Standards and Common Core.





## PARTICIPANT STORY | HIGHLIGHTS

Jennie Rhine, an Alameda County Superior Court judge, was a longtime and devoted volunteer at the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory. When she passed away in 2014, her husband Tom Meyer made a gift in her memory to bring underserved youth to Hawk Hill. Tom feels strongly that if youth are exposed to the work of GGRO, they similarly would be inspired to volunteer or work on behalf of raptors. In partnership with National Park Service (NPS) staff, the Conservancy launched an initiative through the Crissy Field Center to bring San Francisco public school 4th graders to Hawk Hill, dovetailing perfectly with the inaugural Every Kid in a Park campaign in the NPS Centennial year. This gift inspired the pilot program, Hawks on the Move.



## TRENDS | LEARNING | FUTURE PLANS



### Crissy Field Center staff are committed

to working with teachers and co-designing opportunities that best support the students' needs while utilizing the national parks as classrooms. The team is exploring programming around themes including Japanese internment, climate change, and writing and performing personal memoirs. Programs are in early stages of development and promise to open a new chapter of partnership with SFUSD teachers.



## KEY PARTNER





# Community Group Programs



## 2016 STATISTICS

141

Programs delivered

4,470

Children served

2,821

Adults served

17,069

Total contact hours

28

San Francisco Public Library  
branches served

2,000

Community access tickets  
distributed to Alcatraz

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

**The Community Programs and Outreach team** offers single-visit and multi-visit programs to community groups that serve people of all ages who need support due to transportation barriers, economic challenges, or special needs—or who simply are unfamiliar with the park. Staff facilitate programs in the park and in the community.

An entry point for new audiences is often a personal connection with staff. By establishing an authentic dialogue and developing relationships in the participants' own communities, the staff are able to build

rapport and create meaningful connections. In the park, staff showcase the cultural and natural history and the recreational opportunities that the Golden Gate National Parks have to offer. The team works with a wide diversity of groups, such as youth in foster care, people with high health risks, and new immigrant families.

**Healthy Parks, Healthy People (HPPH)** is a global movement that harnesses the power of parks and public lands in contributing to a healthy society. The National Park Service's HPPH program was established in 2011 to reframe the role of parks and public lands as an emerging, powerful health strategy.

**YMCA Play, Learn, Serve, Work** is a summer camp program offered to youth at multiple Bay Area branches of the YMCA. Center staff provide training to YMCA staff about the park, culturally relevant activities, and available resources. In addition, staff also deliver a capstone campfire program at the end of the week to all participants.

**Junior Ranger Days** were developed during the Every Kid in a Park effort to get all 4th graders into a national park during the National Park Service's Centennial celebration. Four Junior Ranger Days were held at Alcatraz, the Marin Headlands, and Muir Woods, serving 2,400 participants from low-income communities. The program culminated in the Junior Ranger Jamboree on Crissy Field; despite rain and inclement weather, more than 600 participants came out for activities and fun, and 300 young people were sworn in as official Junior Rangers.



## PARTICIPANT STORY | HIGHLIGHTS



**As part of the NPS Centennial**, a new partnership with the San Francisco Public Library was developed. During the summer of 2016, NPS ranger storytelling programs took place at all 28 library sites, with 953 young library visitors and their families participating. In addition, ten community shuttles brought 572 community members from branch libraries to various national park sites. Once in the park, staff helped guide visitors to different experiences that best resonated with their interests. For 30% of the participants, it was their first time in the Golden Gate National Parks.



## TRENDS | LEARNING | FUTURE PLANS



**Community Group Programs** and Summer Camp will continue to blend and broaden their collaborations. A pilot for a “partner camp” program will be a co-designed experience for community-based organizations and the children and families they serve. In the spring, we plan to partner and pilot a family camp that serves the LGBTQI community.

In 2017 the focus continues to be working with marginalized communities and connecting them to relevant and empowering park experiences. Programs will concentrate on serving youth who experience mental health challenges and have been through the juvenile criminal justice system.



## KEY PARTNERS



YMCA- Play, Learn, Serve,  
Work Initiative



San Francisco Public Library



HEALTHY  
PARKS  
HEALTHY  
PEOPLE  
BAY AREA

- Over 15 community-based organizations





## 2016 STATISTICS

92

Children served

40%

Of campers received  
full scholarships

10%

Of campers received  
reduced fees

6:1

Participant to staff ratio

15

Park sites visited  
by participants

55

Miles hiked across all 3  
summer sessions of Junior  
Rangers and Presidio Trekkers

72

Junior Ranger  
badges awarded

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Crissy Field Center facilitates outdoor **environmental day camps** that provide children with meaningful experiences in the Golden Gate National Parks and beyond. Children ages 6 to 11 can enroll in camps where they learn about what makes a thriving park, healthy community, and a just society. Participants build lasting memories, experience self-discovery, forge friendships, and learn about their surroundings through hands-on science experiments, multimedia projects, and outdoor excursions.

Younger children embark on a national park adventure closer to home in **Presidio Trekkers**. Small group size ensures that children and instructors foster community while hiking along the bluffs, volunteering at the Presidio Native Plant Nursery, or learning at the Gulf of the Farallones Marine Sanctuary Visitor Center.

Older children explore further afield in **Junior Rangers**. Each day, participants explore a different Park site, venturing to Alcatraz, Muir Woods, Marin Headlands, Point Reyes National Seashore, or Rosie the Riveter. As part of the culminating experience, campers stay overnight at Rob Hill campground and swear in as official Junior Rangers on the last day of camp.

**Our normally reticent daughter  
exclaimed 'BEST CAMP EVER!!!'**

—Robin Sharp, parent of Ariana,  
a participant in Presidio Trekkers





## PARTICIPANT STORY | HIGHLIGHTS

John said his favorite thing about camp was ‘going to somewhere new every day.’ He also said, ‘I really like hiking with the Trekkers.’ I thought that was awesome. John thinks parks are important because ‘they are public places. They’re for everyone to enjoy. Nobody should ever think they’re not public.’ I was moved that he was able to come up with these answers. I feel he really walked away from the program more aware of park importance, and his ownership of them. We may have a future park steward in the making. We both look forward to next year’s programming as he would like to move on to Junior Ranger!”

—Juan Burciaga, parent of John, age 8, a participant in Presidio Trekkers



## TRENDS | LEARNING | FUTURE PLANS



Next year, the **Presidio Trekkers** and **Junior Rangers** programs will undergo slight modifications to the age-groups served and camp timing. The first week of camp will focus on building comfort and understanding in outdoor spaces, building up to a park-based service project, and developing an action plan around a social or environmental issue.

Additionally, we will begin working with community-based organizations in need of tuition-free summer programming focused on outdoor experiential environmental education.

This program will offer a specific experience rather than a generalist form of camp, allowing us to focus on deeper relationships with individual participants and the group as a whole.

Finally, a partnership is in development between Queer Camp and Crissy Field Center to pilot an LGBTQI family weekend campout at Rob Hill. Modeled after Bay Area Queer Camp which strives to foster an inclusive, diverse, and fun summer camp experience, this program would provide Queer families with a place to gather, camp substance free, and be in parks as a community.



## OUR THANKS

Special thanks to outside instructors who greatly contributed to our programs:

- Carla Munoz (Ohlone-Rumsen)
- Wicahpiluta Candelaria (Ohlone-Apache)
- Justin Holl, Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Visitor Center, NOAA
- Elyse Rainey, Institute at the Golden Gate





## 2016 STATISTICS

66

Participants completed a seven-week summer program

12

High school students employed as summer interns

12

Middle schools represented (Francisco, Hoover, Roosevelt, Presidio, A.P. Giannini, Marina, Aptos, Lawton Alternative, Alice Fong Yu, Rooftop, MLK)

250

Contact hours per participant during the seven-week summer program

1,500

Contact hours during Saturday school-year programming

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

**Respect, integrity, courage, and humility.** These are values and themes that Urban Trailblazers (UTB) took on in 2016 as participants explored social and environmental justice issues through media and art courses. UTB is a youth leadership program designed especially for middle school-age youth.

For seven weeks each summer, a group of 66 culturally and economically diverse students from San Francisco Bay Area public schools are introduced to leadership through art, media, and science workshops and to service through projects both within—and beyond—the Golden Gate

National Parks. They also go on overnight trips to other national parks such as Lassen and Yosemite. UTB represents many participants' first internship, in which they earn a \$250 education award upon successful completion.

Youth have the opportunity to continue on in the school-year **UTB Saturday program**, in which youth delve deeper into the dynamics of leadership and engage in youth-led service projects.



I love UTB because it's not like any regular program or job. When I come to UTB I feel like I'm coming to a second home. I know when I come to UTB I won't be judged and I will always feel welcomed. Last summer UTB taught me how to step up as a leader especially since it was my second year. I got to let the newcomers know that they can feel comfortable in the CFC.

—Chastity DeCuire, 2nd year UTB intern



## PARTICIPANT STORY | HIGHLIGHTS



### FROM INTERN TO STAFF

**Laura Alvarez** first learned about UTB as a high school intern with I-YEL, and was encouraged to apply for the UTB summer internship by her mentor. Although she started off a little nervous, once she met her team she was excited to experience everything UTB had to offer. Now as a UTB instructor, she is the one mentoring new interns.

That summer was one of the best summers that I ever had where I had the opportunity to lead activities, and do lesson plans on what I thought was important. And my highlight of the summer: I got to sleep on Alcatraz for my birthday! Now fast forward four years later, I had the chance of becoming a summer instructor where I had my own group of students and interns. Coming back as a group leader I was able to inspire and mentor my group in being young leaders of our community and show them what UTB culture is all about. Also, being able to work with a group of students with different backgrounds and having them learn as a team was an amazing experience.

—Laura Alvarez, Middle School Instructor



## TRENDS | LEARNING | FUTURE PLANS



### MEETING IN THE MIDDLE

Expanding into San Francisco after-school sites, UTB will begin serving up to 24 students at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Academic Alternative Middle School. The program will meet three times per week, including Saturdays. Instructors are developing hands-on curriculum focused on healthy parks and healthy people. In tandem with their students, they will explore and share their own personal identities, discuss stereotypes, and investigate definitions of a “healthy community” through assessment of their own neighborhoods’ health and existing resources. These young people will have the opportunity to apply to the UTB summer program and deepen their connections to national parks.



## KEY PARTNERS







## 2016 STATISTICS

116

Galileo Academy of Science and Technology students completed 50 hours or more of field study

17

Biweekly field trips to the Presidio of San Francisco

94%

Of students reported increased appreciation of the value that parks bring to their community, after participating in Project WISE

93%

Of students reported increased understanding of the impact that human behavior has on the environment, after participating in Project WISE

250+

Youth, park staff, teachers, and community members who attended the annual Project WISE Environmental Science Symposium

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

**Now in its 16th year**, Project WISE engages students from Advanced Placement (AP) Environmental Science classes at Galileo Academy of Science and Technology, a public high school in San Francisco. In this year-long, place-based, student-centered program, participants not only learn environmental science concepts, but also get a chance to utilize scientific practice to better understand their parks and communities.

Much of the learning during Project WISE is done outside, as classroom concepts are applied to sites in the national park and

San Francisco communities. Water quality lessons are reinforced by an intensive study of Lobos Creek in the Presidio. The Crissy Field Marsh is used as a case study of wetlands. Air quality is investigated by comparing pollution levels in different communities across San Francisco.

During the spring semester, Project WISE students conduct their own scientific explorations and present their findings at an annual symposium to peers, park officials, school district administrators, and members of the community.



**In response to high student interest** in participating in outdoor experiences, staff increased the number of optional field trips available to Project WISE students. Known as WISE After Hours (WAH), these trips included

day visits to local national park sites like Muir Woods, Tennessee Valley, and the Marin Headlands, as well as overnight trips to Mt. Tamalpais and Yosemite National Park.

At the end of the year, 11 Project WISE students embarked on a three-day backpacking trip to Big Basin Redwoods State Park. Students took on leadership responsibilities such as trail navigation, camp setup, meal preparation, and activity facilitation. During these trips, students reflected on their own relationship with the environment and what roles they could play as environmental leaders.



## PARTICIPANT STORY | HIGHLIGHTS

### POINT REYES SCIENCE ADVENTURE

WISE instructors and 13 youth took part in the Point Reyes Science Adventure, **a program focused on authentic scientific research**. They spent one week at the Historic Lifeboat Station working with staff from Point Reyes National Seashore and the National Park Service, conducting research on ecological projects, including plant species distribution, hydrology profiling, and fish monitoring.

My favorite experience would be the various science activities. I got to use new equipment, like waders and the long measuring stick. It was also a time where everybody got to learn about science and the people around them. Everything that we did was all new, which made it more fun. I also got to touch a lot of stuff too, like the mole crabs or the sea anemone.

—Jiamin Liang, Project WISE student, intern, and Point Reyes Science Adventure participant

In addition to emphasizing scientific research, the Point Reyes Science Adventure also provided opportunities for participants to reflect on their relationship with the environment and gain leadership skills. Students visited the Point Reyes Lighthouse, hiked to Tomales Point, and participated in a kayak adventure on Tomales Bay. The youth also were given the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills gained during the program to their own communities, through discussions on diversity in San Francisco and environmental racism. During their stay at the Historic Lifeboat Station, participants were put in charge of roles such as meal preparation, reflection activities, and community-building exercises.



## TRENDS | LEARNING | FUTURE PLANS



Project WISE helps students in their **future academic and career paths** by developing skills such as public speaking, critical thinking, conducting scientific investigations, and producing digital media. In the 2016–2017 school year, Project WISE will put a greater emphasis on environmental justice. Curriculum will discuss how poor communities and communities of color have higher exposure to environmental health risk factors like pollution, and less access to the benefits provided by the environment such as clean air and open space. Project WISE staff also are exploring new partnerships with middle schools and other high schools for the upcoming year.



## KEY PARTNERS



**SPECIAL THANKS**  
to the Tri-Agency  
Natural Resources teams





## 2016 STATISTICS

329

Youth workers,  
educators, and  
administrators served

1,553

Contact hours

7

Trainings facilitated

4

Conference  
presentations

4

VIP tours provided to  
international leaders

10

Center staff completed  
the train-the-trainer  
program with the Park  
Youth Collaborative

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Continuous learning is embraced by great educators. **The Center staff** offer a variety of informative and inspirational trainings. Whether it is about youth engagement, inclusion and equity, or specific education techniques, the staff are able to **customize trainings** and support the needs of educators and youth workers.

During the past year, staff provided trainings to Outdoor Educators Institute (a program of Youth Outside), staff from eight Bay Area branches of the YMCA, and other tri-agency park staff. Ten Crissy Field Center staff have completed the Park Youth Collaborative (PYC) professional development program and are poised to lead more trainings for both park staff and external educators. Staff are trained in three differently themed cohorts: youth development; diversity, equity, and inclusion; and educational excellence.

Staff also presented at conferences and hosted VIP tours demonstrating the unique role the Center has played in working with youth in the national parks. Staff presented at the annual American Geophysical Union conference; Department of Children, Youth, and Families summer learning conference; and Inspiring a New Generation conference in West Virginia. The Center also hosted and met with VIP groups, including park leaders from Japan, Korea, and China.





## PARTICIPANT STORY | HIGHLIGHTS

The Center has been a partner with the **Outdoor Educators Institute**, a program of Youth Outside, since its inception in 2012. Program staff facilitate multi-day trainings on topics such as multicultural environmental education, youth development practices, and lesson planning and delivery.

Seeing the OEI cohort learn from the Crissy Field Center is amazing. The Center staff draw the best parts out of them, and help them realize that they have the tools to relate to and educate young people. **You can see them realizing their place in the outdoors.** We firmly believe that without the Center's work, the path to equity, diversity, and inclusion in the outdoors would be a much harder, lonelier, and scarier path to take.

—Rena Payan, Program Manager for Outdoor Educators Institute with Youth Outside



## TRENDS | LEARNING | FUTURE PLANS



**Crissy Field Center** staff have always led trainings for others, but now will take on a larger training role in 2017. Staff will collaborate with other trained leaders from the PYC professional development cohorts. Several trainings are already scheduled, including workshops on educational techniques such as curriculum development and historic inquiry, youth development practices, and understanding racial oppression.



## KEY PARTNERS



YMCA- Play, Learn, Serve,  
Work Initiative